THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The cost of the Nhava Sheva Port has gone up from the original estimate of Rs. 506 crores to Rs. 870.54 crores exclusive of capitalised interest. The increased cost is primarily to be met from budgetary support to be given by Govt. of India, institutional loans and loans of Rs. 75 crores and Rs. 50 crores to be advanced by Bombay Port Trust and Kandla Port Trust respectively.

(d) No, Sir.

Changes in the Rules for Acquisition of Foreign Vessels

976. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have effected various changes in the rules governing acquisition of foreign vessels; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether an inter-ministerial committee was set up which had recommended swift and simplified procedure;

(c) if so, what are the details of the main recommendations; and

(d) to what extent the foreign vessels, under the new rules would be acquired and to what extent it would benefit the Ministry of Surface Transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) A revised composite application for acquisition of ships has been devised. Applicant company has to apply simultaneously to Ministry of Finance, Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India, Director General of Shipping and Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee of Ministry of Surface Transport. These agencies would examine the application and give their comments to Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee which will meet once every month and decide on the request. The revised procedure will speed up the acquisition procedure.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Inter-ministerial Committee has not recommended any change in procedure for ship acquisition.

(d) The revised procedure would speed up the process of acquisition of vessels, including foreign vessels. This would help in adding to the National tonnage. It is also expected to result in savings in foreign exchange.

Non-Utilisation of Funds Allocation for Eradication of Leprosy in Delhi

977. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Administration was allocated funds between 1980-87 to eradicate leprosy; if so, what was the amount allocated for the purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that only one-sixth of the allocated amount has been spent; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps are being contemplated to utilise the unspent funds;

(d) whether the number of leprosy patients in Delhi between 1983-87 was about 4,831; and

(e) what steps are being taken to eradicate leprosy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The requisite information is given as under:—

Cash	*Kind*
Rs.33.50 lakhs	Rs. 3.28 lakhs

TOTAL :

Rs. 36.78 lakhs

(b) Rs. 3.28 lakhs have been spent by the Central Government between 1980-87 for making provision of drugs for the Union Territory of Delhi for leprosy control programme.

(c) Delhi Administration has been requested to review the NLEP activities in the Union Territory and develop plan of action.